

12 May 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: CHIEF, POLITICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE

SUBJECT: Anticipated Reaction in NEA Area to U.S.
Government Distribution of Food to the
Satellite Countries

1. It is not anticipated that this proposed action by the U.S. Government will produce a widespread or general reaction in the Near East and Africa area. The masses of these countries, as a rule, are either ignorant of or apathetic to events taking place in other parts of the world and involving parties who are neither of the same blood or religion as themselves.

2. In the case of South Asia, however, where food and the general insufficiency of it is on everyone's mind, this U.S. gesture of largesse to Eastern Europe, a wheat surplus area, could very well cause a general anti-U.S. reaction. This reaction would be particularly strong in Pakistan, which has requested but not yet received aid from us.

3. It is to be expected, furthermore, that some Arab nationalists will raise the question of why the Americans should want to help Communists when the Palestinian Arab refugees, whose plight they tend to blame on U.S. support of Israel, need help so badly. The Turks, too, are likely to react somewhat similarly, since they do not make the distinction between an enemy government and the people of the country.

25X1A


Division of Near East
and Africa

SECRET

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

INSTRUCTIONS: Officer designations should be used in the "TO" column. Under each comment a line should be drawn across sheet and each comment numbered to correspond with the number in the "TO" column. Each officer should initial (check mark insufficient) before further routing. This Routing and Record Sheet should be returned to Registry.

FROM:

NO.

DATE

CNEA

12 May

TO	ROOM NO	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS
		REC'D	FWD'D		
1. CNEA/CPP				WHL	
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3. CNEA					
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